

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 2412**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Chang**

February 19, 2016

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*An act to add Article 4 (commencing with Section 78050) to Chapter 1 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the Education Code, relating to community colleges.*

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2412, as amended, Chang. Community colleges: ~~career technical education.~~ *incentive grant program for completion of industry-recognized credentials.*

Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the California Community Colleges, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. Existing law establishes community college districts throughout the state, and authorizes them to operate campuses and provide instruction to students. Existing law establishes various career technical education programs, including regional occupational centers and programs, specialized secondary programs, partnership academies, and agricultural career technical education programs.

~~This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to workforce development and career technical education programs offered at campuses of the California Community Colleges.~~ *would, commencing with the 2017–18 academic year, establish an incentive grant program for the completion of industry-recognized credentials, as defined, in specified occupational areas by students enrolled at participating campuses of the California Community*

*Colleges. The bill would provide for the administration of this program, and the distribution of the incentive grant awards, by the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.*

*The bill would require a community college campus that receives an incentive grant award under this bill to use the funds to improve its workforce development and career technical education programs, as specified. The bill would list criteria to be prioritized in the selection of industry-recognized credentials that would be eligible for funding under the program.*

*The bill would require the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges to submit a report to the Legislature containing specified information about the program on or before December 1, 2018, and on or before December 1 every 3 years thereafter.*

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. Article 4 (commencing with Section 78050) is*  
2     *added to Chapter 1 of Part 48 of Division 7 of Title 3 of the*  
3     *Education Code, to read:*

4

5             *Article 4. Incentive Grant Program for Completion of*  
6             *Industry-Recognized Credentials*

7

8     78050. (a) *An incentive grant program is established, to be*  
9     *administered by the Office of the Chancellor of the California*  
10    *Community Colleges, for the completion of industry-recognized*  
11    *credentials in specified occupational areas by students enrolled*  
12    *at participating campuses of the California Community Colleges.*  
13    *These grants shall be awarded by the chancellor's office beginning*  
14    *in the 2017–18 academic year and for each academic year*  
15    *thereafter.*

16    (b) *The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community*  
17    *Colleges shall provide each campus of the California Community*  
18    *Colleges that participates in the program with one thousand dollars*  
19    *(\$1,000) in grants for each eligible industry-recognized credential*  
20    *in specified occupational areas earned by a community college*  
21    *student.*

1 (c) As used in this article, “industry-recognized credential”  
2 means a certification that a student receives from an independent,  
3 third-party, certifying entity using predetermined standards for  
4 knowledge, skills, and competencies, resulting in the award of a  
5 credential that is nationally recognized and addresses a critical  
6 local or statewide economic need.

7 78051. (a) Each campus of the California Community Colleges  
8 that participates in the program created under this article shall  
9 maintain documentation of student attainment of  
10 industry-recognized credentials that are eligible for incentive  
11 grants, and report that data to the Chancellor of the California  
12 Community Colleges. The Office of the Chancellor of the California  
13 Community Colleges shall verify compliance with this requirement  
14 on an annual basis. If it is found that a participating campus failed  
15 to comply with the documentation requirement or intentionally  
16 provided incorrect data regarding the amount of credentials  
17 earned, all incentive grant funds received by that campus for that  
18 academic year shall be refunded to the state.

19 (b) The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community  
20 Colleges shall distribute the grants and establish procedures and  
21 timelines for participating campuses to report earned credentials.

22 78052. (a) A campus of the California Community Colleges  
23 that receives incentive grants under this article shall use those  
24 funds to improve its workforce development and career technical  
25 education programs. Funds may be used for equipment upgrades,  
26 supply purchases, program expansion, or any other use that would  
27 improve campus workforce education and career technical  
28 education programs. Incentive grant funds shall not be used to  
29 fund the salaries or benefits of personnel in these departments in  
30 which students are earning industry-recognized credentials.

31 (b) The Office of the Chancellor of the California Community  
32 Colleges shall work with local workforce boards, businesses,  
33 industry, the Employment Development Department, and the  
34 California Workforce Development Board to identify  
35 industry-recognized credentials that are in high demand based on  
36 regional and statewide needs and employment projections. The  
37 chancellor’s office and this working group shall prioritize all of  
38 the following criteria when selecting industry-recognized  
39 credentials that shall be eligible for funding under this article:

1     (1) *The relevance of the certificate to the labor market needs*  
2     *of the state and relevant region's competitive industry sectors and*  
3     *industry clusters.*

4     (2) *The relevance to the state's need to fill skills gaps and skills*  
5     *shortages in the economy, including those at the state and regional*  
6     *level.*

7     (3) *The projected wages and rates of employment placement*  
8     *for students entering the labor market.*

9     (c) *The criteria referenced in subdivision (b) shall be prioritized*  
10    *by the Office of the Chancellor of the California Community*  
11    *Colleges annually and updated each year thereafter to reflect*  
12    *changing and new workforce needs. The updated criteria shall be*  
13    *posted on the Internet Web site of the chancellor's office and*  
14    *distributed to instructors and students in career technical education*  
15    *classes.*

16    78053. *The Office of the Chancellor of the California*  
17    *Community Colleges shall submit, pursuant to Section 9795 of the*  
18    *Government Code, a report to the Legislature on or before*  
19    *December 1, 2018, and on or before December 1 every three years*  
20    *thereafter. The report required by this section shall include, but*  
21    *not necessarily be limited to, the amount of funds allocated through*  
22    *under this article and a list of the industries for which the funds*  
23    *were allocated.*

24    ~~SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact~~  
25    ~~legislation relating to workforce development and career technical~~  
26    ~~education programs offered at campuses of the California~~  
27    ~~Community Colleges.~~